

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the following paragraphs at page 10, after line 10.

Fig. 1 is a cutaway view of a fuel tank with an opening sealed by a plate carrying accessories constituting a first embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 2 is similar to Fig. 1 but accessories are supported by tank wall and constitutes a second embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a third embodiment of the invention where a plate sealing an opening of a tank carries a liquid-vapor separator.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, line 28 to page 11, line 5 with the following amended paragraph.

Fig. 2 illustrates a system similar to that in Fig. 1 wherein a pipette (2), an ROV valve (35) and the wall of a tank (4) have simultaneously been welded to a coextruded, compression-molded plate (1). This plate (1) is obtained in advance by blow molding in a cavity adjoined to the one used to blow mold the tank. In this variant, the valve (35) is still attached to the pipette (2) by latching, but the pipette-valve assembly is disposed on a flange (58) cut into an indent in the wall of the tank (4) on the periphery of an opening.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 8-14 with the following amended paragraph.

Fig. 3 illustrates a coextruded plate (1) sealing an opening of a tank and carrying a liquid-vapor separator. The plate (1) is molded, as in the case described in Fig. 2, by blow molding a parison into a cavity adjoined to the one used for blow molding the tank.

The plate (1) is equipped with and passed through by an outgassing pipette (210) that has a raised internal opening attached to the plate and equipped with a joint at the place where the plate (1) passes through. This pipette is made of a material with low permeability.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 15-17 with the following amended paragraph.

A valve (39) of the ORVR type is welded to the wall of the tank along the periphery of the opening and communicates directly with the internal volume of the latter.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 18-19 with the following amended paragraph.

A pipette (411) is also welded to the tank and connected inside the latter to a valve (not illustrated in the figure) located in another area of the tank.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 20-21 with the following amended paragraph.

A space (512) delimited by the wall of the tank, the ORVR valve, the pipette, and the coextruded plate (1) constitutes a liquid-vapor separating device.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, line 22 to page 12, line 3 with the following amended paragraph.

This device has the following advantages, compared to conventional devices:

- Integration of the liquid-vapor separation function into the tank;

- Ease of attachment and possibility of using various techniques for attaching the external pipette (210) because of the accessibility of the internal and external sides of the plate prior to welding;
- Utilization of an ORVR valve (39) and a pipette (411) made of HD polyethylene, easily welded to the external wall of the tank without harming its impermeability;
- Simplification of the production of the valve (39) and the pipette (411);
- Covering of the areas of the walls of the tank that are not very thick after production by blow molding, such as the areas near the valve (39) and the pipette (411).

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 4-8 with the following amended paragraph.

Fig. 4 illustrates a system for supporting the areas of flexible deformation of the tank in the vicinity of the opening in the wall of the tank, in diametrical positions near the opening. Pins (413) made of PEHD, in groups of 3 and disposed in rows, are molded during the blow molding of the tank on the periphery of the area where the opening is cut out.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 9-14 with the following amended paragraph.

Clamps (214) are then placed, in the open position, over the wall of the tank so as to surround each group of 3 pins (413). After being locked into position in the direction perpendicular to the wall of the tank, they are then closed and clamped onto the pins so as to support the wall of the tank during the entire duration of the operations

for cutting the opening, possibly machining its edges, possibly inserting accessories,
and welding the plate so as to seal the tank.